

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF HAMMOND, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hammond, County of St. Lawrence and the State of New York was held at the Chippewa Bay Fish and Game Club on the 15th of September 2021.

PRESENT: Ronald Bertram - Town Supervisor
Douglas Delosh - Deputy Supervisor
James Pitcher - Councilmember
James Tague - Councilmember
Theodore Elk - Councilmember

OTHERS PRESENT: Town residents, Nicole Jobson; Fourth Coast, and Town Clerk Pamela Burton.

Notice of said meeting was duly sent to the Watertown Daily Times on September 10, 2021 and posted at the Hammond Town Hall and at www.townofhammondny.com.

Supervisor Bertram called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

REDI-CHIPPEWA

1. Supervisor Bertram gave background and explained the Town owns the 49.5' right-away and boat launch in Chippewa Bay. After high water years, the Town received State REDI funds (Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative) for the Chippewa Bay Dock and Boat Launch. The Town is also in process of buying the Singer Castle property for more parking. REDI plans were formed around the ideas that more parking is needed, the dock is in bad shape, and complaints of launch/dock abuse.
2. Nichol Jobson explained the grant is for shoreline resiliency and economic growth.
3. **Questions from residents included:** could grant money be used for opening the inlet, what is the amount of grant money, how does a double ramp lead to economic growth, define resiliency, what are the finger docks for, where can I see the plans, how do you use the money to benefit residents, is parking lot paving included, what is the time-line for the grant, what is cost of tearing down Singer house, and what is the protocol for moving plans along to the next step?
4. **Comments from residents included:** Black Lake double boat launch is a mess and no turn-around, contractors should use yacht club launch, bass fisherman are not spending money, information has not been shared well, focus on economic plan, management is the biggest problem, don't lose grant, make one wider ramp at about 36', enforce dock rules and fine, Clayton charges for a launch, put a dock on store side, Board is responsible for enforcing dock signs, form a community group with Board and architect, Chippewa Yacht Club supports community in their decisions, have Town Board meetings in different community locations, there is not good parking at Town launches, clean up Singer lot, make boardwalk nice, be mindful of bathroom use, relocate porta-potty, Jadd Brown suggests a planning committee of Butch Reifensnyder, Brett, John Gage, and John Comepeau, and thank you to the Board.
5. **Town Board replies:** Plans have been in the works for two years and information is on websites and in TISUN, the plans were designed to ease congestion, bass fisherman provide a lot of sales tax that everyone benefits from, REDI is for municipalities, boats use finger docks for repair or

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loading, two ramps are not for two launches at the same time, grant is 500k, bring your ideas to the Board, paving not included, enforcement is part of the solution, complaints and pictures on parking violations need to come to the Town then County for solution, once Singer lot is finalized Town can use a dock master to enforce parking and launch, Town has not been able to find a person to tow boats away but can retry, a new plan has to be approved by all funding agencies and REDI commission, please submit new plan asap to find out sooner than later if there is a problem, better communication and enforcement will avoid issues, Board is looking into having meetings in other locations, there is a board meeting on 9/22 and 10/13, and thank you to residents.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Bertram adjourned meeting at 7:30pm.

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Pam Burton, Town Clerk